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PRICE, FIVE CENTS.

A NEW NEGRO PRIEST.

FATHER DORSEY CONDUCTS HIS FIRST MASS.

Impressive Services in St. Francis Xavier's Church, Baltimore—The Chant a Divine Inspiration—Father Slattery Preaches a Liberal Sermon, Helpful to the Negro.

John Henry Dorsey, of St. Joseph's Seminary, Baltimore, was ordained to the priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church by Cardinal Gibbons, June 21, at the Cathedral in Baltimore. On Sunday, the 22d, he celebrated his first High Mass in St. Francis Xavier's Church. At this service he was assisted by Father Charles R. Uncles, of Clayton, Del., who was ordained December 13, 1901, and has the distinction of being the first, as Father Dorsey is the second, colored man elevated to the priesthood in this country. St. Francis Xavier's is a colored church. Nevertheless there were many white persons scattered among the sixteen hundred who crowded its aisles and doorways. With unalloyed interest all watched the faultless celebration. Father Dorsey with his 28 years, looked youthful enough at the side of those maturer priests who assisted him, Father St. Lawrence, pastor of the church, who acted as deacon, and Father Slattery, superior of St. Joseph's Seminary, but he wore his golden vestments with ease and dignity; with clear enunciation, precision and rhythm he chanted his prayers and confessions. No indecision marred the ease of his movements about the sanctuary, and above all, his face showed none of the anxiousness of the novice but wore the solemn, calm expression of one engrossed in the sacredness of the holy eucharist. As I sat there listening to the impressive service, I was reminded of the words of the late Congressman, S. S. Cox. He had been visiting St. Peter's, Rome, and, telling of his experience, said: "Soon there arises in this chamber of theatrical glitter a plain, unquestioned African, and he utters the sermon in facile latinity with graceful manner. His dark hands gesture harmoniously with the rounded periods, and his swart visage beams with a high order of intelligence. The head of the great Catholic Church, surrounded by the ripest scholars of the age, listens to the eloquence of the despised Negro, and there illustrating to the world the common brotherhood which binds the human race."

How would Mr. Cox have marvelled at this service, who knew full well how much nearer for the black man was St. Peter's at Rome, by way of Europe, than the humblest Catholic chapel by way of America! Father Slattery, that staunch friend of the Negro, delivered the sermon. It was full of eloquence, but of that sort in which rhetorical figures yield to important truths, plainly told. In his criticisms he spared no one from the "pious old mammas of the Church who

MEN OF THE HOUR.



REV. I. GARLAND PENN.

Originator and Corresponding Secretary of the Young People's Christian and Educational Congress, Atlanta, Ga.

to flatter their white pastors declared they prefer white priests" to the "uncatholic sentiment (among prejudiced whites) which looks askance at Negro priests." He urged the Negro to upright living and admonished Father Dorsey to holy conduct, worthy his priestly calling, pointing for emulation to the sisterhood of black women of Baltimore, which had been established in 1829, but concerning which no breath of scandal had been raised even up to that very moment. But more emphatically did Father Slattery point to the black saints of the Church, Martin of Porres, and St. Benedict the Moor. The second service of the day was the reception at 4 o'clock in the basement of the church. The room was crowded, there being over a hundred representatives from St. Augustine and St. Cyprian. Short addresses were made by invited speakers, the Washingtonians participating being the writer and Dr. W. S. Lofton. The latter in a well read paper urged a colored priesthood for a colored parish, refuting the idea that our people are averse to priests of their own race. In conclusion he said: "Rev. Father Dorsey, now a word to you, my brother. Bound as we are by blood and racial affinity, bound by the Holy Church, in the name of the colored people of this country, I welcome you to your chosen field of labor. Your people

welcome you with open arms, they look forward with pleasure and pride to the day you will be given a charge. I have been designated to present you in the name of the people of Washington, D. C., Charleston, S. C., and New Orleans, La., this purse of love regretting that the shortness and conditions of the time prevent it from being of the magnitude which they desired. Accept it as their good will and with it the prayers of all the colored Catholics of the country."

At the morning service Mrs. Smallwood sang Gounod's "Ave Maria." At the reception Mrs. Irving, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Bernadine Smith, of St. Augustine, gave solos. This notice would be unpardonably deficient did I fail to mention the generous hospitality of the Baltimoreans who not only provided the visitors with luncheon in the basement of the church but received us in their homes with unfeigned welcome.

WALT B. HAYSON.

The hint that Mr. Bryan will oppose "Tom" Taggart for chairman of the Democratic National Committee may not amount to anything. Suppose Mr. Bryan fails to control the convention—the faction which does control is very apt to disregard the wishes of the Nebraskan and select Mr. Taggart, who is the very best man for the place.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES.

The Vacation Schools a Success—Generous Aid from Citizens—Prof. Waring's Resignation Not In and the Supervisors Cannot be Filled Until September.

At the last meeting of the Board of Education the following assignments were made:

F. L. Cardozo, jr., as assistant director in charge of colored night schools; William Joiner, as principal of Cook Manual Training School; A. U. Craig, Millie G. Lewis, Julius Shaw and Emily V. Lewis, teachers.

Randall Night School—Isabelle Russell, principal.

Stevens Night School—Daniel B. Thompson, principal.

Appointed teachers in night schools—Susan Fisher, Olive Contee, Josephine Ball, Nannie E. Anderson, Annie S. Holmes, Mary A. Stewart, Hattie Hammer, Lizize E. Scott, John C. Bruce, Emma Kinner, Julia McAdoo, Laura Parker, Mary Brown and Lena Hewlett.

M Street High School—Promoted: J. L. Love, from \$950 to \$1,000; C. M. Thomas, from \$800 to \$850; A. C. Newman, from \$700 to \$750.

As the resignation of Prof. J. H. N. Waring had not been received, the board was unable to take action upon the matter of his successor as supervising principal. It is definitely understood, however, that Prof. Waring will accept the principalship of the High and Training School at Baltimore to which he has been elected. The case will go over until September. There will doubtless be numerous candidates by that time.

The Lincoln Vacation School had an enrollment of 466 at the end of its first week and more have come in since, carrying the total above 500. Congress not having made an appropriation for the schools they are dependent upon the generous contributions to carry on the work. Already contributions have been received from from a number of local firms. An interesting feature is the cooking, in which children from the fifth and through the eighth grade are taught. The school is under the principalship of Miss I. I. Russell, assisted by the following: Miss M. L. Jordan, Miss A. V. Saunders, Miss M. A. D. Madre, Miss M. E. Wilson, Miss E. V. Campbell, Mrs. M. E. Griffin, Miss A. A. Shaw, Miss F. Payne, Miss L. B. Davis, Prof. J. T. Layton, Mr. A. C. Newman, Miss E. Freeman, Miss A. L. Cornell, Mr. S. D. Milton, Miss C. Harris. A picnic was given by the teachers Tuesday of last week for the purpose of raising funds. At the school sewing, cooking, millinery, experimental physics, basketry, paper work, practical drawing,

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